

Fort Keogh Bridge
Spanning the Yellowstone River
on Local Road #056 near Miles City
Fort Keogh
Custer County
Montana

HAER No. MT-13

HAER
MONT
9-MILE C.V.,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Fort Keogh Bridge

MT-13

HAER
MONT,
9-MILCIV,

1-

Location: Spanning the Yellowstone River at Fort Keogh on local road #056, near Miles City, Custer County, Montana.

Date of Construction: 1902

Present Owner: U.S.D.A. Livestock & Range Research Station
Route #1, Box 3
Miles City, Montana 59301

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: The Yellowstone River Bridge at Fort Keogh was erected in 1902 by W.S. Hewett & Co. of Minneapolis. The bridge was constructed with two pin-connected Pennsylvania through trusses (each 310 feet long), one steel plate girder approach span (approximately 70 feet long), one pin-connected Pratt pony truss span (approximately 50 feet long) and a number of timber stringers approaches (since replaced). The single lane bridge is 16 feet wide throughout and is the eighth structure erected across the Yellowstone River at this site. Prior to its construction, the nearest bridge crossing the Yellowstone was at Glendive, some 78 miles downstream. The price of all the steel work for the structure was \$40,000. The main spans are simply supported on encased concrete steel tubular piers on either shore and on a concrete river pier at mid-stream. The two truss superstructures are identical and were fabricated as follows: the lower chords and hip verticals of steel eyebars; sub-divided vertical members of either eyebars or four laced angles; remaining vertical members of laced channels; sub-divided diagonals of steel eyebars; and upper chords of continuous plates riveted atop laced channel sections. Lateral struts were fabricated with laced angle sections and the highly ornate portal struts were erected with riveted angle sections. The timber deck and stringers were erected atop floor beams consisting of angle sections riveted to steel plates. The bridge is nearly 29 feet above the

Yellowstone River at low water. In 1924, Keogh Military Reservation was acquired by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for use as a livestock research station. Shortly thereafter the Yellowstone River Bridge was purchased by the U.S.D.A. from Custer County for the price of one dollar.

Transmitted by:

Kevin Murphy, Historian HAER, 1984; from data compiled by Greg Fitzsimons, 1979

ADDENDUM TO
FORT KEOGH BRIDGE
Spanning Yellowstone River
Miles City Vicinity
Custer County
Montana

HAER No. MT-13

HAER
MONT
9-MILES

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013

ADDENDUM TO
FORT KEOGH BRIDGE
Spanning Yellowstone River
Miles City Vicinity
Cluster County
Montana

HAER No. MT-13

HAER
MONT
9-MILCLY
1-

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING
National Park Service
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